WHY ADOPT FROM A SHELTER?

When you are ready to adopt a pet, consider your animal shelter first. Over 250,000 animals enter North Carolina animal shelters each year. Support your shelter by adopting a pet. Shelter pet adoption has many benefits!

ADOPTION COSTS LESS

Adoption fees include these health care savings.

Typical veterinary charges for:
- Spaying/neutering $150-300
- Distemper vaccination $20-30 each
- Rabies vaccination $15-25
- Heartworm test $15-35
- FeLV/FIV test $30-50
- Deworming $20-50

HEALTH BENEFITS

Health benefits resulting from pet ownership has been studied and proven to provide positive health benefits. Pet owners are generally healthier, more active and enjoy:

- Lowered stress levels & hypertension
- Companionship & improved mental health
- Fewer allergies
- Lessened isolationism

FIGHTS PUPPY MILLS

Adoption opens space for other animals. Responsible breeders will allow you to visit their kennel/home and meet the parent dogs. Buying over the counter or from the internet disguises where the animal actually came from.

IMPROVES THE COMMUNITY

Shelter pets are vaccinated, sterilized and not roaming becoming sick, vicious, subject to cruelty or causing a bad reflection on your community. Many animals are housed at the shelter due to an owner’s health or financial situation. Help these families by taking their pet into a loving household.

SEE YOU SOON!
AM I READY TO ADOPT?

Pet adoption is adding to the family or household. All members should be in agreement about adoption and willing to take part in the pet’s care.

A dog’s life span ranges from 8 to 20 years, small breeds living longest. A cat’s lifespan ranges from 7 to 25 years, also dependant on breed.

Every pet’s life span is affected by genes inherited from their ancestors; along with diet, exercise and environmental conditions. Most shelter dogs are of mixed breed but will act and resemble their dominant breed.

Learn about the breed you are considering. Dogs are classified into groups, not all are suitable as family pets. Check out the AKC for detailed breed information. You can learn more by reading about the breed by visiting Breed Clubs.

THINGS TO ASK YOURSELF!

Have I investigated what type of pet or breed I want?
Do I have the time to care for the pet?
Do I have the space for a pet?
Is everyone in agreement about the pet?
Do I have the finances to care for the pet?
Have I seriously considered the aspects of pet ownership?

SMALL CHILDREN?

Generally, children 7 years and under are not ready for a young pet. Raising a child with a family pet requires your time in supervising interactions between the pet and your child.

Things to Consider:
• Puppies and cats have sharp nails & teeth that scratch easily.
• Dogs and puppies can chew favorite toys and furniture
• Puppies treat children as littermates & can play roughly.
• Cats do not like being held for long periods of time and can lash out by scratching or biting.
• Large dogs can knock children over and cause injuries.

ADOPTION PREPARATION

Over 43 million households in the United States own at least one pet. Over 78 million pets enter our animal shelters every year.

By adopting a sterilized shelter pet you have saved at least 2 animals. Your pet leaving the shelter has made room for another animal at the shelter. Your pet will not reproduce, freeing up more room at the shelter and helping even more animals until we stop filling our shelters every year.

YOU HAVE BECOME THE SOLUTION!

Now that you are the proud owner of a shelter pet, here are a few websites and search terms that can help you start out on the right foot!

Petfinder.com - Dog & Cat Care, Basic Training
Aspca.org - Pet-care
AVMA.org/public/PetCare
Humansociety.org - Dog tips, Cat tips

PREPARATION IS THE KEY!

A list of things to do & have on hand for your new pet!

Dry & Canned feed
Feed & Water bowls
Litter Box, litter and scoop
Puppy Pads (for the car and those “accident” areas)
Crate (For cats & dogs, everyone needs a private place!)
Comfy, easy to clean bed
Leash & Collar (Don’t forget to attach their rabies tag!)
Grooming supplies
Toys!
A place for the pet’s documents (health, receipts)
Register your microchip!

Now that you are prepared, you can spend time enjoying each other!

SPECIAL NEEDS

Some animals leave the shelter with special needs. Most are health related. The animal shelter will provide you with all it knows about the health of the animal and recommends the pet to be examined by a veterinarian within 2 weeks of adoption. Some animals are required to see a veterinarian right away.

ADOPTION

DOGS

$110 - $125
Deposit Fee $55
Deposit Fee with Microchip $70
Adoption Fee $55

Dogs have had the following veterinary attention:
• Heartworm test (at 7-8 months of age)
• Distemper Vaccination
• ParvoVirus Vaccination
• Kennel Cough (Parainfluenza) Vaccination
• Bordatella Vaccination
• Rabies Vaccination (1 year)
• Deworming upon entry and at 2 week intervals
• Spaying-Neutering

CATS

$90 - $105
Deposit Fee $45
Deposit Fee with microchip $60
Adoption Fee $45

Cats have had the following veterinary attention:
• FeLV test
• Panleukopenia (ParvoVirus) Vaccination
• CaliciVirus Vaccination (Upper respiratory virus)
• Rhinotracheitis Vaccination (Respiratory virus)
• Rabies Vaccination (1 year)
• Deworming upon entry and at 2 week intervals
• Spaying-Neutering

All dogs and cats must be sterilized before leaving the shelter. If the pet you want to adopt is already sterilized, you can adopt that day!

ADOPTION PROCESS

Find the pet you want to take home.
Sign the Adoption Application.
Pay the Adoption Deposit Fee.
The pet is spayed/neutered.
Return to finalize the adoption.
Take your new pet home!